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Agency of Transportation

NHTSA Manufacturer Air Bag Safety Recall Clarification

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Bulletin 17-01

On November 29, 2016 Bulletin 16-04 was issued regarding the inspection of a vehicle with open manufacturer recall(s) and their applicability to Vermont Safety Inspection process.

The following update is to provide clarifying guidance regarding vehicle safety recall(s) relative to the current Takata air bag inflator recall. U.S. DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has identified 19 vehicle manufacturers and recalled 46 Million Takata airbag inflators in 29 million vehicles. Under an Amended Consent Order issued to Takata in May 2016, automakers will be required to recall additional inflators over the next three years, ultimately affecting approximately 64 to 69 million inflators in 42 million total recalled vehicles.

Under the Coordinated Remedy Program, NHTSA has committed to seeking a 100 percent recall completion rate from the vehicle manufacturers to protect the motoring public. As of December 2, 2016 automakers reported they have so far repaired approximately 12.5 million inflators.

NHTSA has worked to increase consumer awareness of the recalls and encourage vehicle owners with open recalls to take action. Vehicle owners looking to see if their vehicles are subject to a recall can use the following website to check their vehicle:

<https://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle-Owners/Check-For-Recalls/CheckForRecalls>

When conducting a Vehicle Safety Inspection mechanics are required to check the air bag readiness light to determine that it is working correctly. However, inspection mechanics/inspection stations should not be failing a vehicle just because it may be subject to NHTSA's Takata Air Bag Recall.

Inspection stations if aware should inform their customers of the recall and direct them to the appropriate manufacturer. Additionally, once the Automated Vehicle Inspection Program (AVIP) goes online NHTSA recall information will be provided on the inspection report for the consumer.

Please feel free to contact the Enforcement & Safety Division office if you have any questions.



Colonel William (Jake) Elovirta
Director of Enforcement & Safety